

GOVERNOR GRANHOLM'S PLAN TO GROW OUR ECONOMY, SECURE OUR FUTURE: **OVERALL ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR MICHIGAN**

GOVERNOR GRANHOLM HAS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO CREATE JOBS AND BOOST MICHIGAN'S ECONOMY

She will "go anywhere and do anything" to create, retain, and grow jobs in Michigan. And, she is fighting hard to protect our families and educate our children. Governor Granholm puts Michigan first.

GROWING THE ECONOMY

The Governor is going anywhere and doing anything to create jobs for Michigan workers, and direct action by her administration is convincing major corporations to create jobs and expand in Michigan. Keebler relocated its headquarters from Illinois to Battle Creek. Toyota is putting 400 people to work in York Township at its new Technical Center. When manufacturing jobs left Greenville for Mexico, Governor Granholm stepped in and helped convince United Solar Ovonix to open a new manufacturing facility there. The Governor has met face to face with businesses from across the country and around the world – and her leadership is paying off. Her mission to Japan has already attracted 630 new jobs and \$116 million in new investment from 10 Japanese companies. But the Governor knows we have a lot more to do to create good paying jobs so our kids can stay in Michigan and work in Michigan. That's why she has a comprehensive Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow plan, which includes a new, \$2 billion 21st Century Jobs for Michigan Fund that will diversify our economy and create thousands of jobs. From cutting taxes for businesses to matching out-of-work citizens with jobs that exist right now, Granholm is working hard every day to turn our economy around.

PROTECTING OUR FAMILIES AND OUR CHILDREN

Granholm knows that Michigan must ensure the health and safety of our families and our children to maintain our excellent quality of life. That's why she extended health services to nearly 100,000 more citizens and created the MiRx drug discount program that is helping 32,000 Michiganders purchase prescriptions. To protect our children, she's gone after sex and violence in video games. Our neighborhoods are also safer after her administration put more than 1,400 dangerous parole violators and more than 800 sex offenders back behind bars.

EDUCATING OUR KIDS

Governor Granholm knows the best path to a bright economic future is a high-quality education. Our children deserve to reach their full potential in a safe environment with the tools they need to succeed. That's why the Governor created Project Great Start to increase access to quality child care in Michigan communities and to give parents the tools they need to be their child's first and most important teacher. The Governor is also working to create higher standards in Michigan's high schools so that all students are prepared for success in college and in life. She is fighting to make Michigan the first state in the nation to make college or vocational training accessible and affordable for every child in the state. And, despite eliminating almost \$4 billion in budget shortfalls – more than any other governor before her – Governor Granholm's 2006 budget increased funding for Michigan's K-12 schools to record levels, while asking schools to do more to help kids learn.

Granholm Administration's Accomplishments for Benton Harbor/St. Joseph

Despite a Republican-led legislature, the Granholm administration has consistently and successfully fought for all Michigan citizens. In Wayne County, Governor Granholm's administration has:

Invested in Economic Growth in Benton Harbor

- **Signed Legislation Modifying a Renaissance Zone in Benton Harbor.** The bill modifies a Benton Harbor renaissance zone to allow for its expansion to attract development and economic expansion.
- **Approved a Brownfield Single Business Tax Credit.** The former Benton Hotel in downtown Benton Harbor will be transformed into a mixed-use development, generating more than \$400,000 in private investment, and create 15 new full- and part-time jobs.
- **Approved a Single Business Tax Credit for Company Expansion.** Atlantic Automotive Components, LLC, a leading manufacturer of auto interior plastic components will invest \$21.8 million to expand its existing facility in Benton Harbor. An SBT credit of \$707,000 helped convince the company to choose Michigan over Indiana. Up to 162 new jobs will be created, including 71 directly by the company.
- **Approved a Single Business Tax Credit to Create 464 New Jobs in Berrien County.** ICG, Inc. will expand its automotive die casting operations, creating 341 new jobs, and stimulating an estimated \$12.5 million in private investment. ICG Castings manufactures highly engineered aluminum die cast components primarily for the automotive and appliance industries.
- **Created 250 Summer Jobs for Benton Harbor Youth.** A collaboration between several state departments helped create 250 summer job opportunities for youth ages 14-21 in Benton Harbor.

Invested in Tourism

- **New Winery Law Gives Michigan Wines National Exposure.** Signed a new law that allows up to 1,500 cases of wine to be shipped annually by wineries both in- and out-of-state to consumers. This will help Michigan wineries gain national attention for their award-winning wines.
- **Additional \$15 Million for Michigan's Tourism Industry.** Helped Michigan's tourism industry with an additional \$15 million in advertising funds to be spent over the next two years to promote Michigan's tourism industry.
- **Post-Labor Day School Start to Help Support Tourism Industry.** Signed legislation that will help create new job opportunities and increase tourism spending in Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula by calling for a post-Labor Day school start.
- **Proposed \$22 Million to Improve State Parks and Increase Tourism.** This investment will enhance Michigan's State Park system through improvements at campsites, nature centers, and camp stores, thereby increasing attendance and tourism spending.
- **The City of Niles Awarded Governor's Award for Historic Preservation.** The location and excavation of historic Fort St. Joseph, an important outpost in the Great lakes fur

trade and in the struggle for power between France and Britain, has the potential to become an attractive cultural tourism destination, bringing an important piece of Michigan's history to the public, and tourism dollars into the state.

Invested in Community Development

- **St. Joseph County Receives One of First Great Start Collaborative Grants.** The St. Joseph County Intermediate School District received a \$90,000 Great Start Collaborative Grant to create early childhood development and child care programs for local families.
- **Expansion of Family Resource Centers.** A Family Resource Center was opened at Hull Elementary School in Benton Harbor to help deliver human services to the families of students attending Hull Elementary.
- **MSHDA Grant Awarded.** A \$250,000 grant from MSHDA was awarded to build four new single-family homes in Benton Harbor.
- **Berrien County Awarded 2005 Historic Preservation Award.** The City of Niles was selected as an award recipient for the removal of metal covering from historic buildings on Main Street in downtown Niles.

Invested in the Environment

- **Signed Water Protection Bill.** Governor Granholm signed legislation that bans dumping of contaminated dredged materials in open waters in Michigan. The legislation, which is designed to clarify existing state law, is part of the Governor's comprehensive plan to protect Michigan's water.

Invested in Education

- **Awarded \$4.6 Million More for Berrien County Schools.** Thanks to Governor Granholm's leadership, state support for local public schools in Berrien County increased by more than \$4.6 million in the past year, all the while calling for higher curriculum standards. Funding for Berrien County schools now stands at an all-time high.
- **Called for Parental Notification if Child Falls Behind.** Governor Granholm has called for legislators to write into law, legislation that requires schools districts to help make sure that you know early if your child is falling behind. When something's not going right for your child in school, you want to know right away so you can help right away, not after they've been falling behind for weeks.
- **Proposed New \$4,000 Merit Scholarship.** The Governor continues to push for the New Merit Scholarship which will guarantee every student who successfully completes two years of college or technical training a \$4,000 scholarship – an amount roughly equal to two years of community college tuition.

5/16/06 – 12:55 p.m.